

REGIONAL FORESTER, R-5

March 27, 1958

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RX-CAL-INSECT SURVEY PROGRAM, General
Detection Report No. 27

On March 19, J.E. Wickham of the Experiment Station, L. Whitfield of the Bass Lake District, and W. Paldi of the Forest Supervisor's Office reviewed insect conditions on parts of the Bass Lake and Northfork Districts, Sierra National Forest. Areas inspected and conditions noted were as follows:

Bass Lake District

1. Thornberry Mountain.--A group of 20 young ponderosa pine killed by Ips and western pine beetles were seen at the north base of the mountain.
2. Lewis Creek.--Scattered loss of young ponderosa pine with some small groups, again infested with Ips and western pine beetle. There were several unsightly groups along the main highway.
3. Bass Lake.--One small group of ponderosa pine killed by western pine beetle at the south end of the lake. This was scheduled for control and is probably cleaned up by now.

North Fork District

1. North Fork.-- Three groups of ponderosa pine infested with Ips and western pine beetle seen from the main highway between Bass Lake and North Fork. All are scheduled for control action.
2. Hogue Ranch.--Several large groups (20 trees each) of ponderosa pine infested with Ips and western pine beetle are scattered along the ridge. One group of 22 young trees was being treated at the time of this inspection. The trees contained heavy broods of western pine beetle. The Ips were just emerging. The three-man Forest Service crew was doing an excellent job treating by the fell, peel and burn method. All the groups in this area are scheduled for control.

The only areas not receiving control were Thornberry Mountain and Lewis Creek. The group of infested trees at Thornberry Mountain warrant immediate

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control. The Forest was advised of the need for treating these trees and is planning to do so. Control should be completed by April 15.

Control action in Lewis Creek is a more complicated situation. Infested trees are scattered throughout the basin and along the main highway. There is also a 600-acre, 1957 burn just west of Highway 41 which may give rise to some insect problems. And much of this area is being subdivided for houses now and will undoubtedly have more insect problems as trees are cut down or damaged. It was Wickman's impression that losses are on the increase in this area. Therefore, this area should be closely watched with a view toward including it in a zone of infestation, if land owners and managers in the area want to protect their trees badly enough to carry on yearly maintenance control work. If such control work is desired, a zone could be made by joining the old Miami Creek unit with the Bass Lake unit. This could be done by including a strip of timber approximately three miles wide extending from the southern end of the Miami Creek unit to the northern end of the Bass Lake unit. It would include highway 41 and the main access road to Bass Lake.

In the future, insect control action on the Bass Lake Zone would be facilitated by extending the southeastern boundary of the Bass Lake control unit for several miles to the town of North Fork.

Charles B. Eaton

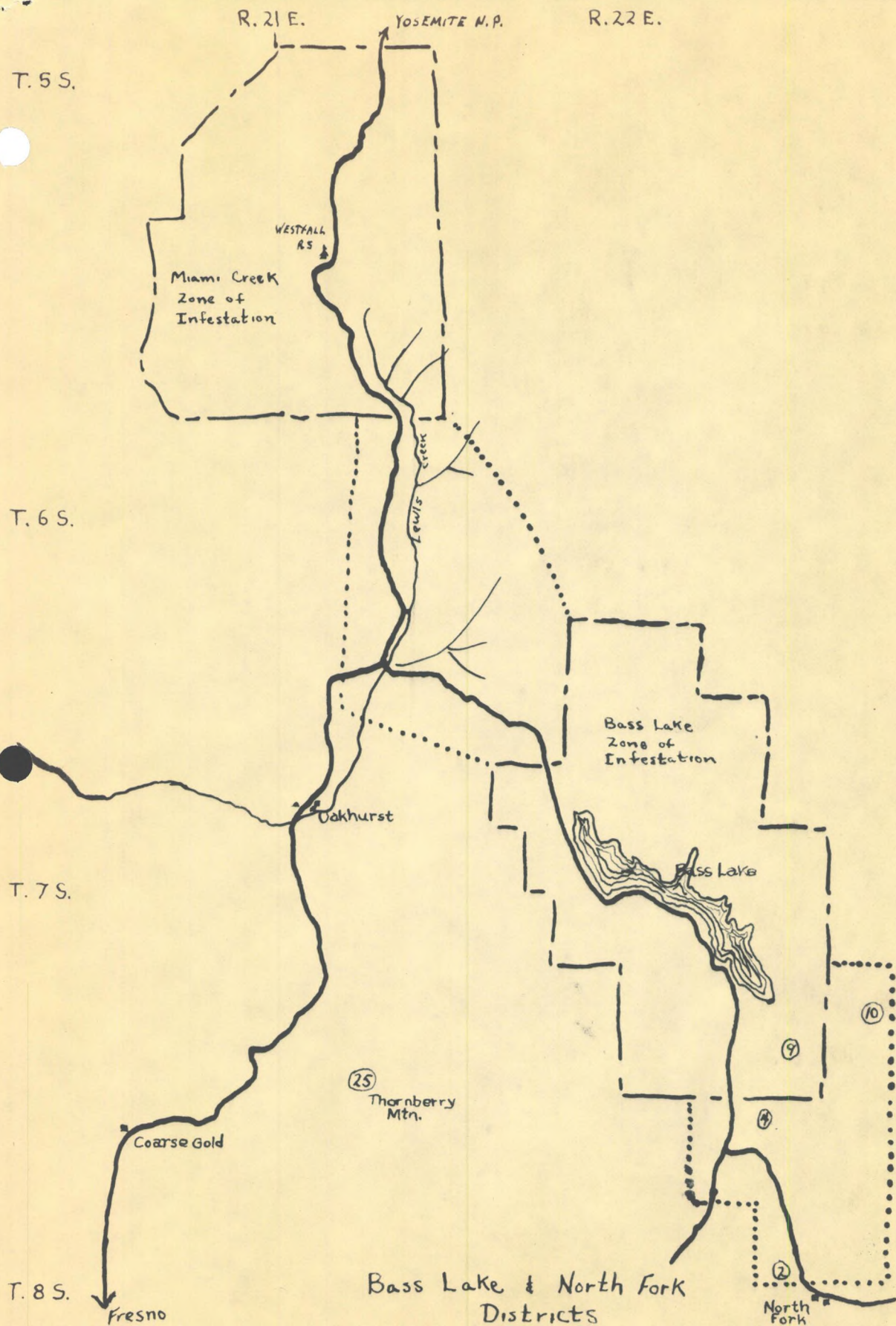
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Boundary of existing
Zone of Infestation

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Number of infested
Trees in Group

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Possible Boundary extension